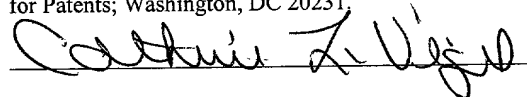


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: George L. Payet : Paper No.:
Serial No.: To be assigned : Group Art Unit:
Filing Date: February 7, 2002 : Examiner:
For: **Textile Finishing Process**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to first action by the Examiner and calculation of the filing fee for the present divisional application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph appearing at page 1, lines 8-12 to read as follows:

--The present application is a divisional application of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/267,654 filed March 15, 1999, which was (a) a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/075,334, now U.S. Patent 5,885,303, which claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of prior pending application 60/046,298 filed May 13, 1997; and (b) a continuation-in-part of copending application 09/163,319, filed September 30, 1998.--

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-20.

Please add the following claims 21-30:

--21. (New) A process for treating a textile fabric to enhance at least one property of the fabric comprising:

treating the fabric with an aqueous formaldehyde solution and catalyst for catalyzing a reaction between formaldehyde and the fabric; and

introducing said fabric into an air circulating oven having an elevated temperature of at least about 300°F to subject the treated fabric directly to the elevated temperature for reaction of the formaldehyde with the fabric to enhance the property of the fabric; wherein the fabric is unresinated.--

--22. (New) A process according to claim 21, wherein the amount of formaldehyde on the fabric is from 0.56% to 7.4%, on weight of fabric.--

--23. (New) A process according to claim 21, wherein the amount of formaldehyde on the fabric is from 0.56% to 2.59%, on weight of fabric.--

--24. (New) A process according to claim 21, wherein the amount of formaldehyde on the fabric is from 5.55% to 6.66%, on weight of fabric.--

--25. (New) A process according to claim 21, wherein the composition comprises sufficient formaldehyde such that the amount of a 37%, by weight, formaldehyde solution on the fabric is from 1.5% to 20%, on weight of fabric.--

--26. (New) A process according to claim 21, wherein the fabric is provided with a silicone elastomer.--

--27. (New) A process according to claim 21, wherein the aqueous formaldehyde solution further comprises an elastomeric silicone emulsion.--

--28. (New) A process for treating a fabric, comprising:

- (a) introducing a fabric into an aqueous solution comprising formaldehyde;
- (b) applying to the fabric an effective amount of a catalyst for catalyzing a reaction between formaldehyde and the fabric; and
- (c) heat curing the fabric under conditions at which the formaldehyde reacts with the fabric;

wherein the fabric is unresinated and comprises protein fibers.--

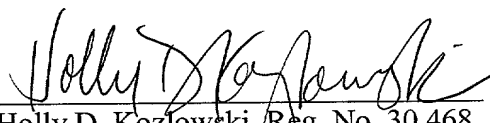
--29. (New) A process according to claim 28, wherein the fabric is provided with a silicone elastomer.--

--30. (New) A process according to claim 28, wherein the aqueous formaldehyde solution comprises sufficient formaldehyde such that the amount of a 37%, by weight, formaldehyde solution on the fabric is from 1.5% to 20%, on weight of fabric.--

REMARKS

The present application is a divisional application of application Serial No. 09/267,654. By the present Amendment, the specification is amended to recite the current priority information. A Version With Markings Showing Changes Made is attached. Claims 1-20 are cancelled and claims 21-30 are added. Claims 21-30 substantially correspond with claims 2, 22-24, 53-55 and 57-59, respectively, as presented in the Preliminary Amendment filed December 18, 2000 in parent application Serial No. 09/267,654, which were subject to restriction in the parent application in the Official Action dated March 8, 2001. It is believed that these changes do not involve any introduction of new matter, whereby entry is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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255 E. Fifth Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
(513) 977-8568

759116

Version With Markings Showing Changes Made

In the Specification:

The paragraph appearing at page 1, lines 8-12 is amended as follows:

The present application is a divisional application of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/267,654 filed March 15, 1999, which was (a) [This application is]a continuation-in-part of [allowed] U.S. Application Serial [application serial] No. 09/075,334, [which will issue as] now U.S. Patent 5, 885, 303 [on March 23, 1999], [and] which claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of prior pending application 60/046,298 filed May 13, 1997; and (b) a continuation-in-part of copending application 09/163,319, filed September 30, 1998.